



SPECIAL EDITION

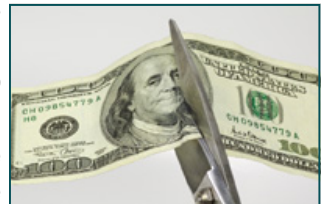
**DEERFIELD CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND CAMP
BRANCH SLATED TO CLOSE APRIL 1, 2009**

The State of Michigan is facing another difficult year financially. An Executive Order released by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm proposes further reductions in state spending for FY 2008-2009. As part of that order, the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) will face a \$26 million dollar mid-year reduction in funding for this fiscal year in addition to \$50 million already cut from the MDOC budget at the beginning of FY 2008-2009.

Reducing the size of the prison system is fiscally responsible and necessary. Because of declining commitment rates, the success of the Michigan Prisoner ReEntry Initiative, and higher parole rates, Michigan's prison population is the lowest in seven years. Therefore, it is our intent to close Deerfield Correctional Facility (ITF) in Ionia and Camp Branch (CDW) in Coldwater effective April 1, 2009. The Executive Order also includes other spending reductions that will be discussed in more detail once they have been identified.

A variety of factors help identify facilities that will be closed. Our ability to place staff with the least impact on them, the age of the facility, the cost to operate the facility, the need for additional improvement or renovations to the facility, the custody level which is related to staffing and facility costs, and the number of prisoners housed at the facility all help determine which facilities are chosen.

The Department remains very cognizant of the difficulties placed on employees and communities who are affected by these closures. We have carefully considered several alternatives and feel that this plan allows the greatest flexibility to place employees in vacant positions near their current worksites while maintaining the ability to safely operate prisons and protect Michigan's citizens. We have considered complexes within regions that have more vacant positions where we can reassign staff and minimize the impact of the closures at the facility level.



The Department will work with the Office of State Employer, Michigan Corrections Organization (MCO) and other unions to minimize the impact on staff. MCO represents the majority of employees who are impacted by the closure and we are working together for reasonable solutions to employee concerns. We will continue to everything in our power to minimize the impact these closures will have on all employees.

The Department continues to work with the Council of State Governments, the Justice Center, and other interested parties to develop long-term criminal justice policy that enhances public safety and promotes offender success.

Patricia L. Caruso, Director
Michigan Department of Corrections